

**Okanogan Germplasm (9033672) Saskatoon Serviceberry****Scientific Name:** *Amelanchier alnifolia* (Nutt.) Nutt. ex Roemer**Common Name:** Saskatoon serviceberry**Selected by:** Pullman Plant Materials Center**Major Land Resource Area (MLRA):** B-8, B-7, B-9

Okanogan Germplasm serviceberry is a deciduous shrub originating from native plants near Okanogan, WA. The collection site was at 1200 feet elevation. Major Land Resource Area: B-8. Leaves are simple, alternate, stalked, with edges usually saw-toothed above the middle. Flowers are white racemes. Berries are dark purplish, globe-shaped, about 1/4 - 3/8 inch in diameter. Okanogan Germplasm's growth was faster and plants were taller than others evaluated.

Serviceberry is found in a variety of conditions from dry, rocky slopes in full sun or in partial shade of coniferous timber. It is also found on moist, deep fertile soils forming an underbrush in aspen and lodgepole pine. It is most common on the upper limits of the Ponderosa pine zone. It is among the more valuable browse plants in the West due to its wide distribution, palatability and ready availability to livestock. It withstands fire and close grazing remarkably well. It is also relished by various wildlife including birds, deer and elk.

Minimum effective precipitation: 14 inches.

Okanogan Germplasm serviceberry grew to 9.7 feet high and 5.6 feet wide in 10 years at Pullman, WA - the fastest growing and tallest of 169 accessions. Average bloom date is April 23, fruit matures July 15 and dormant date is October 20 at Pullman, WA. Plants produced fruit in the 4th year at Pullman, WA.

No particular problems were noted with disease or pests. Plants with adequate moisture can produce abundant fruit.

Propagation is usually done by seed sown in fall. Cold/moist stratification at 40 degrees F. is necessary if natural stratification outdoors is not done.

Intended uses include riparian area restoration in the capillary and upland areas, wildlife habitat improvement and native landscaping. Other uses include shelterbelts and roadside beautification. Its primary intended area of use includes Major Land Resource Area B-8 with secondary use in MLRA B-7 and B-9.

For additional information, contact: Plant Materials Center, NRCS, 104 Hulbert Hall, WSU, Pullman, WA 99164-6211 or your local NRCS field office.

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